

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

WATER DIVISION  
Water Advisory Branch

RESOLUTION NO. W-4256  
March 27, 2001

**R E S O L U T I O N**

**(RES. W-4256), SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER COMPANY,  
(SCWC). ORDER AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY  
SURCHARGE TO OFFSET COSTS RESULTING FROM A  
TEMPORARY ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE TO SOUTHERN  
CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY (SCE) AND PACIFIC GAS  
AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (PG&E) GRANTED BY  
COMMISSION DECISION (D.) 01-01-018.**

---

**SUMMARY**

By Advice Letter 1090-W, filed January 22, 2001, SCWC seeks to increase rates by \$761,357 or 0.46% to offset changes in operating costs that have occurred since its present rates became effective. The increase will not result in a rate of return greater than last authorized for SCWC.

**BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to Commission D.01-01-018, SCE and PG&E were granted an interim rate increase of \$0.01 per kilowatt-hour due to the recent increase in wholesale electricity costs. As a result of the increase granted to these electric companies, SCWC's purchased power costs have increased. SCWC is requesting to increase water rates to offset the incremental impact of \$761,357 in operating expenses by implementing a temporary surcharge in its metered rate schedules.

SCWC requests authority under Section VI of General Order 96-A and Section 454 of the Public Utilities Code to adjust rates to offset the increase in its purchased power costs.

The Water Division anticipates that many of the approximately 150 water and sewer companies the Commission regulates will be filing for similar offsets.

## **NOTICE AND PROTESTS**

Notice of the proposed rate increase was published in the local newspaper of each district on February 22, 2001. No protests were received by the Water Advisory Branch.

## **DISCUSSION**

The offset increase requested herein is for the purpose of recovering in rates on a dollar-for-dollar basis changes in items that have occurred since the present rates became effective. This rate increase will not result in a return greater than that previously authorized.

Since the increase is caused by changes in expenses directly related to water consumption, it is applied to water usage for metered customers.

At proposed rates, the impact to SCWC customers will be the following:

**Bay Point:** a commercial or residential customer on Schedule BY-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 16 Ccf (One Ccf is equal to one hundred cubic feet) per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.15 or 0.21% from \$72.08 to \$72.23.

**Clearlake:** a commercial or residential customer on Schedule CL-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 6 Ccf per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.17 or 0.34% from \$48.90 to \$49.06.

**Los Osos:** a commercial or residential customer on Schedule LO-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 22 Ccf per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.47 or 0.84% from \$55.71 to \$56.17.

**Metropolitan:** a commercial or residential customer on Schedule ME-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 23 Ccf per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.11 or 0.21% from \$54.20 to \$54.31.

**Orange County:** a commercial or residential customer on Schedule OC-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 23 Ccf per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.35 or 0.83% from \$41.97 to \$42.32.

**San Dimas:** a commercial or residential customer on Schedule SD-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 30 Ccf per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.45 or 0.81% from \$55.73 to \$56.18.

**San Gabriel**: a commercial or residential customer on Schedule SG-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 21 Ccf per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.32 or 1.05% from \$30.21 to \$30.53.

**Simi Valley**: a commercial or residential customer on Schedule SI-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 18 Ccf per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.09 or 0.22% from \$41.93 to \$42.02.

**Santa Maria**: a commercial or residential customer on Schedule SM-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 28 Ccf per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.76 or 2.09% from \$36.47 to \$37.23.

**Ojai**: a commercial or residential customer on Schedule OJ-1 with a 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter, using 26 Ccf per month will experience a monthly increase of \$0.49 or 0.94% from \$52.08 to \$52.57.

In order to expeditiously process this filing, Water Division request delegated authority to approve similar advice letters filed by other water and sewer utilities.

## **FINDINGS**

1. The Commission finds, after investigation by the Water Advisory Branch, that the rate increase hereby authorized is justified, and the resulting rate is just and reasonable.

## **THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. Southern California Water Company is authorized, five days after the effective date herein, to make effective the revised rate Schedules BY-1, General Metered Service; CL-1, General Metered Service; LO-1, General Metered Service; ME-1, General Metered Service; OJ-1, General Metered Service; OJ-7ML, Public Park Metered Service; OC-1, General Metered Service; Schedule OC-3M, Metered Irrigation Service; SD-1, General Metered Service; SD-3, Measured Irrigation Service; SG-1, General Metered Service; SM-1, General Metered Service; SM-3ML, Limited Metered Irrigation Service; and SI-1, General Metered Service, attached to Advice Letter 1090-W herein and to concurrently cancel the presently effective rates.

2. If Southern California Edison Company and/or Pacific Gas and Electric Company rates should be further increased, the offset requested in this advice letter would remain in effect until Southern California Water Company requests an offset to pass on those higher rates or until otherwise changed by the Commission. If the Southern California Edison Company and/or Pacific Gas and Electric Company rate increase should be reduced, Southern California Water Company will immediately file an advice letter requesting an offset to pass on the savings to customers.
3. This Resolution is effective today.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, passed and adopted at a conference of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California held on March 27, 2001; the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

---

WESLEY M. FRANKLIN  
Executive Director

LORETTA M. LYNCH  
President  
HENRY M. DUQUE  
RICHARD A. BILAS  
CARL W. WOOD  
GEOFFREY F. BROWN  
Commissioners